UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/47/L.2
21 September 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Implementation of section II of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system

Note by the Secretariat

By its decision 45/436 of 21 December 1990, the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Second Committee, decided to defer until its forty-seventh session consideration of the draft resolution entitled "Implementation of section II of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 on the restructuring of the United Nations system". The text of the draft resolution is reproduced below.

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, and 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

Recalling its resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, by which it, inter alia, established the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System for the purpose of preparing detailed action proposals with a view to initiating the process of restructuring the United Nations system so as to make it more fully capable of dealing with problems of international economic cooperation and development in a comprehensive and effective manner and to make it more responsive to the requirements of the provisions of the

Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as well as those of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

Recalling also its resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, by which it, inter alia, endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee,

Recalling further its resolution 33/202 of 29 January 1979, in which it, inter alia, requested certain actions and measures within the framework of the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee,

Reaffirming that the process of restructuring the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system is an integral part of the efforts required to ensure the equitable, full and effective participation of the developing countries in the formulation and application of all decisions within the United Nations system in the field of development and international economic cooperation,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1979/57 of 2 August 1979, concerning the implementation of section II of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197,

Recalling, in particular, paragraph 13 of the annex to its resolution 32/197,

Taking into account the provisions of paragraph 7 of its resolution 34/212 of 19 December 1979,

Bearing in mind its decision 34/453 of 19 December 1979,

1. Notes with regret paragraph (a) of Economic and Social Council decision 1979/57, concerning the implementation of section II of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197;

2. Recognizes the imperative need to enable the General Assembly to focus its attention on the major global issues relating to development and international economic cooperation, and to deal with other issues on a less frequent basis;

3. Recognizes also that expansion of the membership of the Economic and Social Council to include all States Members of the United Nations as full members would make the Council a more effective organ for carrying out the functions assigned to it in the Charter of the United Nations and for discharging the responsibilities laid down in section II of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197, as well as for assisting the Assembly as may be requested by it;

4. Decides therefore to adopt, in accordance with Article 108 of the Charter, the following amendment to the Charter and to submit it for ratification by the States Members of the United Nations:

"Article 61

"1. The Economic and Social Council shall consist of all the States Members of the United Nations;

"2. Each member of the Economic and Social Council shall have one representative";

5. Urges all Member States to ratify the above amendment in accordance with their respective constitutional processes as soon as possible and to deposit their instruments of ratification with the Secretary-General;

6. Decides to delete, as from the date of the entry into force of the above amendment, rules 145 and 146 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

7. Recommends that the Economic and Social Council should decide at its organizational session for 1981 that, as from 1981, its sessional committees should be open to the participation of all States as full members;

8. Recommends further that, until the amendment to the Charter set out in paragraph 4 above enters into force, the consideration of all substantive questions should be entrusted by the Economic and Social Council to its sessional committees;

9. Decides to discontinue the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development and the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy;

10. Decides also that the General Assembly will be directly assisted by the Council in respect of the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, 1/ and accordingly requests the Council to make adequate time provisions to that end;

11. Decides, in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 11 (d) of the annex to its resolution 32/197, that the preparation of all future ad hoc conferences in the economic and social fields will be directly assumed by the Economic and Social Council;

1/ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

12. Decides further not to establish, in future, subsidiary bodies for the purpose of undertaking functions of a permanent or ongoing nature, but to assign such functions to the Economic and Social Council, as provided for in Article 66, paragraph 3, of the Charter;

13. Requests the Economic and Social Council to discontinue the Commission for Social Development, the Population Commission, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Committee on Natural Resources and the Commission on Transnational Corporations, while retaining the Intergovernmental Working Group on a Code of Conduct until completion of its mandate;

14. Requests the Economic and Social Council, in adopting its biennial programme of work for 1981 and 1982 at its organizational session for 1981, to make provision for the consideration of the following questions on the dates and at the venues indicated:

1981

(a) Population questions, including review, as appropriate, of the World Population Plan of Action (New York, 26 January-4 February);

(b) Social development questions (Vienna, 9-19 February);

(c) Science and technology for development (New York, 16-20 March or 26 May-5 June);

(d) Preparations for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy (New York, 30 March-10 April);

(e) Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (New York, 14-17 April);

(f) Natural resources (New York, 27 April-5 May);

(g) Transnational corporations (New York, 18-28 May);

(h) Human rights and related questions (Geneva, May/June (10 days));

(i) Final session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy (New York, 8-26 June);

(j) Economic programme and coordination questions 2/ (Geneva, 1-24 July);

(k) Special economic and disaster relief assistance (New York, September (one week));

1982

(a) Questions relating to the status of women, including the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women (Vienna, February/March (10 days));

(b) Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (New York, April (one week));

(c) Science and technology for development (New York, April (one week));

(d) Human rights and related questions (New York, May (10 days));

(e) Transnational corporations (New York, May (10 days));

(f) Economic, programme and coordination questions (Geneva, July (four weeks));

(g) Special economic and disaster relief assistance (New York, September (one week));

2/ This session in 1981 will include, inter alia, the following questions, on the understanding that new adjustments will have to be made in the light of future decisions of the General Assembly regarding further rationalization of its work:

(a) General debate on economic and social policy;

(b) Regional cooperation;

(c) Operational activities;

(d) Food;

(e) Environment;

(f) Industrial development;

(g) Human settlements;

(h) Cooperation and coordination of United Nations system activities;

(i) Administrative matters: calendar etc.

15. Requests the Economic and Social Council, as part of the measures required to attain the purposes of the present resolution, to revise, as necessary, its rules of procedure in order to ensure the adequate functioning of the Council until the amendment to the Charter set out in paragraph 4 above enters into force;

16. Recommends, in the context of the above, that the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session for 1981 and thereafter, should elect, among representatives of the States Members of the United Nations, those who are to preside over each of the sessional committees when dealing with each question listed in paragraph 14 above; in the transitional period, those representatives would participate in the meetings of the Bureau of the Council, if they are not members thereof;

17. Decides, in accordance with paragraph 7 of its resolution 34/212, that beginning in 1981, it will give consideration to the following questions in accordance with the schedule outlined and that, in the intervening years, the Economic and Social Council will give substantive consideration and action to those items in the context of its own programme of work:

(a)	Report of the Economic and Social Council	Annually;
(b)	Development and international economic cooperation	Annually, with the exception of the following subjects: 3/
		(a) International development strategy (once every two years, beginning in 1982);
		(b) Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (once every five years, beginning in 1985);
		(e) Science and technology for development (once every two years, beginning in 1981);
		(j) Restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system (once every two years, beginning in 1981);

3/ Based on the sub-items on the agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under item 61.

	(k) Environment)	once every
	)	two years,
	(l) Human)	beginning in
	settlements)	1982;
(c) Operational activities		Once every two years, beginning in 1982;
(d) Training and research		Once every two years, beginning in 1981;
(e) Special economic and disaster relief assistance		Once every two years, beginning in 1981;

18. Decides also to give further consideration to the provisions outlined in paragraph 17 above, in the light of experience and in order to examine similar measures in respect of other relevant committees of the General Assembly, and requests the Economic and Social Council to formulate and submit recommendations in this regard;

19. Decides further, in accordance with paragraph 7 of its resolution 34/212, to consider at its thirty-sixth session those questions on its agenda which could be assigned to the Economic and Social Council for final decision;

20. Further requests the Economic and Social Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session on the implementation of the provisions of those paragraphs addressed to it in the present resolution;

21. Decides to review the implementation of the present resolution at its thirty-sixth session.